

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TUNIS 05055 140935Z

21

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 DRC-01 RSC-01 /030 W

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R 140910Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6539

INFO AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS TUNIS 5055

CASABLANCA FOR RCAA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN BEXP TS

SUBJECT: CIVAIR LOCKHEED L-1011 TRISTAR DEMONSTRATION FLIGHT

REF: STATE 159200

1. DELIEVE DEPARTMENT SHOULD POINT OUT TO LOCKHEED THAT TUNISIAN POLITICAL PARTY CONGRESS NOW SCHEDULED FOR SEPT 11-13 IN MONSTIR. THIS WILL VITRUALLY PRECLUDE ATTENDANCE BY HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIALS FOR DEMONSTRATION FLIGHT AND FOR FORMAL RECEITION PREVIOUS EVENING. ABSORPTIONOF PRESS, RADIO, AND TELEVISION WITH PARTY CONFAB WILL ALSO LIMIT PUBLICITY OF LOCKHEED DEMONSTRATION TOUR. WE RECOGNIZE THAT TIGHT SCHEDULE FOR DEMONSTRATION TOUR MAY PREVENT RESCHEDULING OF FLIGHT FOR TUNISIA BUT BELIEVE LOCKHEED SHOULD BE AWARE OF LOCAL SITUATION.

2. IF LOCKHEED MAINTAINS PLANS TO HOLD DEMONSTRATION FLIGHT TUNIS SEPT 12. IN SPITE OF PARTY CONGRESS, WE SUGGEST THAT GUEST LIST SUPPLIED BY AIR TUNIS AND SHOWN EMBASSY SHOULD BE EXPANDED TO INCLUDE OTHER SENIOR GOT OFFICIALS EVEN THOUGH IT IS APPARENT IN ADVANCE THAT MANY OF THESE OFFICIALS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND EITHER FLIGHT OR RECEPTION. WE BELIEVE THIS WOULD PREVENT INVIDIOUS COMPARISONS AS TO WHO WAS INVITED AND WHO WAS

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PAGE 02 TUNIS 05055 140935Z

NEGLECTED AND INCREASE GENERAL FAVORABLE PUBLICITY FOR FLIGHT.

3. EMBASSY NOT ABLE DISCUSS ABOVE WITH LOCKHEED
REPRESENTATIVE JAMES RAGSDALE DURING HIS SHORT VISIT BUT
IS SUPPLYING SUGGESTIONS RE ADDITIONAL INVITEES TO HIS
WIFE WHO REMAINED IN TUNISIA.

SEELYE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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